

Mr. Hatch was born on a farm within the shadow of the Green mountains of Vermont, Jan. 3, 1830, being a son of Hezekiah and Aldura Sumner Hatch. He received a common school education in the rural district schools of Lincoln and Bristol. His mother died when he was ten years old and was buried at Lincoln, Vermont, and his father died a year later at Nauvoo, Ill., where he had moved with his family after embracing the Mormon faith. Young Abram was at Nauvoo at the time the Mormon prophet and his brother Hyrum were killed at the Carthage jail. In 1850 he came to Utah, arriving in Salt Lake valley on the 15th of September, and the next spring went to Lehi, where he wooed and won Miss Permelia Jane Lott. They were married December 2, 1852. He went into the mercantile business at Lehi and made several trips across the plains to the Missouri river for goods.

In 1867, just after his returns from a European mission, he was called by President Young to go to Wasatch county, and on the second day of December, of that year, was ordained presiding Bishop of this county, to succeed Bishop Joseph S. Murdock, who was called to establish a settlement in Arizona.

He was appointed probate Judge by the Legislative Assembly which met that winter, and on the first of June 1868, he took charge of the municipal affairs of this county, which office he held until 1874.

The Wasatch Stake was organized in 1877 and Mr. Hatch was chosen as Stake President. He held this office until February 10, 1901, when he was succeeded by Wm. H. Smart.

In 1880, his wife died and two years later he married Miss Ruth Woolley, daughter of Bishop Edwin R. Woolley of Salt Lake.

There is no need to mention here what he has done for the people of this county. While he has looked after the interests of Abram Hatch, he has also had an eye to the welfare of the county and its people. His advice to the people has always been to "keep out of debt." It has been the boast of the people here that the county did not owe a dollar and "its warrants were always worth one hundred cents on the dollar." And there is no denying the fact that this condition is largely due to the counsel and influence of Abram Hatch.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF LIFE OF WM. H. SMART.

Wm. H. Smart was the President of the Wasatch Stake of Zion for over five years, during which time his ability as a leader and organizer was thoroughly demonstrated.

He was Born April 6th, 1862, at Franklin, Idaho, and is the son of Thomas S. Smart and Ann Hayten. His early days were spent at home assisting his parents upon the farm. Here the foundation was laid to a life destined to become more than ordinarily useful and great.

President Smart received his education at the B. Y. College, Logan, finishing in the Spring of 1883 in the normal department of the University of Utah. For some time after his graduation he assisted as an instructor in the B. Y. College. On October 3, 1888, he was united in marriage to Anna Haines,

President of the Wasatch Stake to succeed Pres. Abram Hatch, who was honorably released. It was in this position that Pres. Smart became so well known among the people of Wasatch County. He at once adopted the policy of harmonizing the spiritual with the temporal, thereby affording a balanced and consistent growth among the members of his church. His nature is deeply sympathetic, his foresight keen and penetrating. These characteristics soon won him the confidence of the people. He was the prime mover in the establishment of the Bank of Heber City and the Wasatch Development Company, of which organizations he was President during his stay in the County. He also took an active part in the development of numerous other enterprises, among which are the Wave Publishing Company, Heber Mercantile Company, Wasatch Lumber Company and the Wallsburg Mercantile Company.

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Under his Ecclesiastical leadership many new features were inaugurated in the Stake-features that were singularly successful in advancing the interests of the Church, and yet he studiously avoided trespassing upon the domain of the State. The necessity for the transfer of Pres. Smart from the Stake was deeply regretted by all who knew him.

#### JOSEPH R. MURDOCK.

Joseph Royal Murdock, who now presides over the Wasatch Stake of Zion, was sustained, as such August 12, 1906, with James C. Jensen as first and Edward D. Clyde as second counselor. He is a son of Nymphas C.

ly, combined, and otherwise. He was a member of the constitutional convention and has served several terms in the state legislature and has also filled a number of county, city and town offices. A number of business enterprises owe their existence, in a large measure, to the public spirit, foresight and energy of Mr. Murdock. In ecclesiastical affairs, he has been faithful, active and energetic, having filled an honorable mission to the northern states in 1881-2 and he has at all times held himself in readiness to respond to any call made upon him.

#### HISTORY OF WASATCH STAKE.

The territory that originally comprised the Salt Lake Stake of Zion, which was organized shortly after

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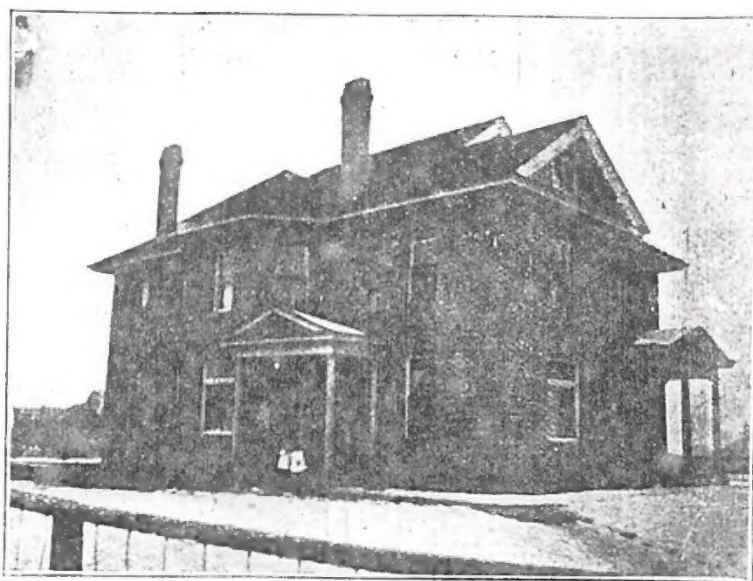


The Stake House in Heber C

the sturdy pioneer first set foot in the valley of the mountain, now form a dozen Stakes, thriving and thickly populated. Among the foremost of these church divisions is the Wasatch Stake of Zion, itself an ecclesiastical division that has gone through many changes since its first organization.

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sence of regular school books, the Doctrine & Covenants and Book of Mormon were the standard school library until other books could be provided? Brigham J. Young, it is claimed, was the first school teacher. Evolution upwards, has been the experience of the Latter-day saints. It was not long before the little log school building was substituted by a commodious rock structure which stood in the northwest part of Heber City, followed soon by the erection of a stone building in the northeast, having recently been purchased by the First Ward for meeting house purposes, and one in the south western part of the city. Thus education of the intellect went hand in hand with the development of the soul and among this thriving, growing community. Saloons or other disorderly houses were not needed in those days. The pioneers would not sell themselves to poison.

In the year 1873 the Heber social hall was completed, and dedicated on November 23rd, nor can it be wondered at that the people were proud of such a building, in which so many social gatherings have been held, providing the innocent amusements that help busy people to live long. This home did good service until, through necessity from the increasing population, the magnificent stone tabernacle was built by the saints, which was completed on May 5, 1889. While the Stake was thus advancing wards were being organized and equipped with public buildings and presiding officers.

Up to December 13, 1873 the Stake existed only as a ward and on that date, the history states, the Wasatch Ward Conference was held.

August 28 and 29, 1875 Elders John Taylor, Wilford Woodruff, and George Q. Cannon of the Quorum of the Apostles, were present at a conference. It was at this time that the saints all renewed their covenants through baptism, testifying anew of their devotion to the work and their determination to continue their fight for righteousness.

In the gatherings of the saints in those days the necessity for mingling the spiritual with the temporal was clearly understood and was not objected to, and it was not uncommon to have sermons preached upon improving your homes by setting out shade trees, repairing fences and whitewashing them; cleaning out irrigation ditches, etc. March 1871 the community as a part of a meeting service, appointed a police commission to keep the several fields clear of stock so that crops would not be ruined in transit. Jno. Lee was to guard the field east of town; James Carlile, George Giles, Phillip Smith and Jonathan Clegg for west or Big field. Robert Duke was allotted the north field. Each were to receive as compensation \$25 cents per each head of stock taken up, which the owner must pay. Every free holder was to receive a certificate from the policeman that his fence was in good condition. In these days the people were their own lawyers, they formed their own courts and serious disputes seldom ever arose.

What purports to be the first Con-

This rule was carried out for some time. Nor was the people asleep to the development of manufactures and other commercial undertakings, looking to their independence. A Co-op Tannery was recommended and established in 1878. Jno. Muir was Superintendent and a brother Holfeltz, of Midway was tanner. Cheese manufacturing was discussed; the old toll road up Provo canyon, that had been taxing each user 25 cents a trip, was made free and improved. The Ashly valley country begun to receive attention and Pres. Hatch reported good land there where it was thought that about one hundred families could be sustained. The killing of fish with powder in the public streams was denied. The tardy weekly mail was changed to tri-weekly, and the little valley begun to assume metropolitan airs. The Stake membership numbered, at its first conference, 2,207, and during the nine years of the presiding of Bishop Hatch, he reported that \$61,661, in tithing had been paid by the saints. In 1884 it was reported that \$41,800 had been expended in building meeting houses, temples and in other stake purposes. And as early as this date the culture of sugar beets was talked of—an industry that since has grown to such great proportions.

At the conference held in 1879 the Ashly wards in Uintah valley were reported organized.

In the early eighties Apostle Francis M. Lyman and Pres. Hatch paid a visit to the Indians on the reservation and taught the gospel to them.

At the conference held in 1886, the recent organization of Uintah Stake comprising what is now known as the Ashly valley, was referred to. Between the two existing Stakes the vast reservation country was destined to lay idle until years later.

The Stake Tabernacle was finished and dedicated on May 5, 1889, by Elder Francis M. Lyman, who was accompanied to the conference by Elder John Morgan.

Thus the wonderful organization went on from the cradle to full stature of a man. The railroad, telephone and telegraph came to shorten the distance to commercial centers and when on February 10, 1901 the Stake was reorganized, those who had gone with it from infancy could feel a righteous pride in what had been accomplished under the wonderful blessings of the Lord.

At this time Pres. Hatch and his counselors were honorably released and Wm. H. Smart, of Ogden, was sustained as President, with Joseph R. Murdock and James C. Jensen as counselors.

Later Jos. W. Musser came to Heber and was sustained as Stake Clerk.

Bench Creek and Francis Wards were transferred to the Summit Stake,

thus rendering the Stake less unwieldy.

As might be supposed the installing of new officers resulted in a number of changes throughout the various organizations of the Stake. The splendid work accomplished by Pres. Hatch and co-laborers, were not to be lost through lack of progression in the new regime and the organization took on new life which percolated through its many veins causing the whole body to thrive marvelously. The Amusement board was established for the purpose of elevating and purifying the recreation of the people. This has led up to a modern Amusement hall now in course of construction at Heber. The Sabbath school organization was strengthened by the establishment of a Union board. Miss Ellis Shipp devoted her talent as a Kindergarten teacher, in establishing such classes in several wards. The records were overhauled and improved upon. The work of Religion classes and Primary associations thrived. The Heber Ward was divided into three wards and Midway into two, thus necessitating the building of new meeting houses, which work is progressing as rapidly as can be.

In May, 1906, the Stake boundaries were again changed. This time practically all the reservation side, not including Strawberry valley, that formerly belonged to Wasatch Stake—a strip about 70 miles long by 50 wide, was attached to Uintah Stake, and Pres. Smart was taken to Vernal to preside over that Stake to succeed Pres. Samuel R. Bennion, released.

The people of Wasatch Stake have much to be thankful for. The Lord has wonderfully blessed them. There is practically no poor here, nor is there occasion for idleness. No better summer climate can be found in Utah and the winters are not oppressively severe. Many of the grey haired veteran men and women, who figured in the beginning of the work in the Stake have gone to their reward, and others are following almosts every day. Upon the shoulders of the young is the marvelous work being shifted. Will they be able to bear the responsibilities incident to it with the fortitude, courage and determination and with the rare wisdom that their parents exhibited? Let her institutions grow like the sturdy oak, better rooted by each storm and broad and beautiful enough to shelter all people.

The ecclesiastical divisions of the Stake as now exist are as follows:

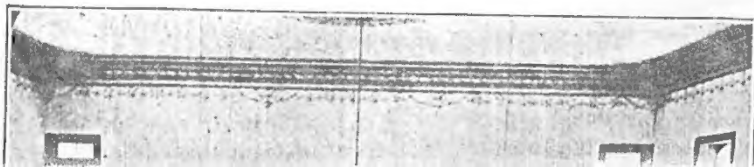
Heber, First Ward, Robert Duke, bishop.

Heber, Second Ward, Jos. A. Rasband, bishop.

Heber, Third Ward, Frederick Crook, bishop.

Midway, First Ward, Henry T. Coleman, bishop.

Charleston, Jno. M. Ritchie, bishop.



seven children being the fruits of said marriage.

Besides making a special trip to England for genealogical purposes, in which he was eminently successful, Pres. Smart performed a mission to Europe, laboring in the Turkey and London missions. Later he was again called upon a mission to the Eastern States, where he succeeded Alonzo P. Kelser as President of that mission.

In his numerous labors, both abroad and at home, Pres. Smart has won his way into the confidence of the people and was known as a consistent and devout worker in his faith.

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